

What is claimed is:

1. A bending apparatus comprising:
a support handle having first and second ends;
a bending handle having an engaging portion;
a connecting member having first and second ends, said first end being pivotally
5 attached to said support, and said second end attached to said bending handle;
a die incorporated on said first end of said support handle and having a channel
formed therein; and
an orienting member attached to said second end of said support handle, said
orienting member having a non-circular cross-sectional shape.
2. An apparatus, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein;
said second end of said connecting member is pivotally attached to said bending
handle.
3. An apparatus, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:
said die includes gradations formed thereon corresponding to the angles to which
a workpiece can be bent by the bending apparatus, and said bending handle has an index
incorporated thereon to measure the amount of bend imparted by the bending handle on
5 the workpiece.
4. An apparatus, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:
said support handle includes an offset section attached to said support handle,
wherein said offset section is angularly offset with respect to said support handle.
5. An apparatus, as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:
said orienting member has a rectangular cross-sectional shape.

6. In combination, a vise and bending apparatus comprising:
a support handle;
a bending handle having an engaging portion;
a connecting member having first and second ends, said first end being pivotally
5 attached to said support handle, and said second end attached to said bending handle;
a die incorporated on said support handle and having a channel formed therein;
an orienting member attached to said support handle, said orienting member
having a non-circular cross-sectional shape; and
a vise having a stationary jaw, and a movable jaw movable toward and away from
10 said stationary jaw, wherein said cross-sectional shape of said orienting member
complements a shape of a gap between said jaws, and wherein said orienting member
attaches to said support in a desired orientation so that said bending apparatus may create
horizontal or vertical bends in a workpiece without readjusting said bending apparatus
when secured to the vise.

7. An apparatus, as claimed in Claim 6, wherein;
said second end of said connecting member is pivotally attached to said bending
handle.

8. An apparatus, as claimed in Claim 6, wherein:
said die includes gradations formed thereon corresponding to the angles to which
a workpiece can be bent by the bending apparatus, and said bending handle has an index
incorporated thereon to measure the amount of bend imparted by the bending handle on
5 the workpiece.

9. An apparatus, as claimed in Claim 6, wherein:
said support handle includes an offset section attached to said support handle,

wherein said offset section is angularly offset with respect to said support handle.

10 An apparatus as claimed in Claim 1, wherein:

said orienting member has a rectangular cross-sectional shape.

11. A method of bending a workpiece, said method comprising the steps of:
providing a bending apparatus comprising:

a support;

a bending handle having an engaging portion;

5 a connecting member having first and second ends, said first end being
pivotally attached to said support, and said second end attached to said bending handle;

a die incorporated on said support and having a channel formed therein;

an orienting member attached to said support, said orienting member
having a non-circular cross-sectional shape;

10 attaching the bending apparatus to a securing device wherein said orienting
member orients said bending apparatus to a desired orientation;

providing a workpiece to be bent and securing the workpiece in the bending
apparatus; and

15 operating the bending handle to impart a desired first angular bend on the
workpiece wherein the workpiece remains oriented either horizontally or vertically with
respect to the ground.

12. A method, as claimed in Claim 11, further including the steps of:

releasing the workpiece from the securing device;

rotating the bending apparatus with respect to the securing device to orient the
bending apparatus substantially 90° from its original position in the securing device;

5 resecuring the bending apparatus in the securing device;

repositioning the workpiece in the bending apparatus; and
operating the bending handle to impart a desired second angular bend on the
workpiece, said second angular bend being substantially 90° from the first angular bend.

13. A bending apparatus comprising:

a support having first and second ends, said first end having a channel formed
thereon for receiving a workpiece;

a bending handle having an engaging portion;

5 a connecting member having first and second ends, said first end being pivotally
attached to said support, and said second end being attached to said bending handle; and

means attached to said second end of said support for orienting said bending
apparatus allowing said bending apparatus to produce a desired angular bend in the
workpiece, said orienting means having a non-circular cross-sectional shape.

14. In combination, a securing device and bending apparatus comprising:

a support having first and second ends, said first end having a channel formed
thereon for receiving a workpiece;

a bending handle having an engaging portion;

5 a connecting member having first and second ends, said first end being pivotally
attached to said support, and said second end being attached to said bending handle;

means attached to said second end of said support for orienting said bending
apparatus allowing said bending apparatus to produce a desired angular bend in the
workpiece, said orienting means having a non-circular cross-sectional shape; and

10 a securing device having at least two opposing engaging surfaces, one of said
engaging surfaces being movable to and away from the other of said engaging surfaces,
wherein said cross-sectional shape of said means for orienting complements a shape of a
gap between said engaging surfaces.